

PHYS 311 Homework Set 2

1. THE DIVIDENCE OF A VECTOR FUNCTION IS...

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} \quad \text{IN CARTESIAN COORDINATES}$$

so, for the vector function...

$$\vec{v}_a = x^4 \hat{x} + 4x^2 z^2 \hat{y} - 2y^3 \hat{z}$$

$$\text{so } \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}_a = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(x^4) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(4x^2 z^2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(-2y^3 z)$$

$$[\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}_a = 4x^3 - 2y^3]$$

for the vector function...

$$\vec{v}_b = x^2 y \hat{x} + 3x^2 z \hat{y} + 2yz^2 \hat{z}$$

$$\text{so } \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}_b = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(x^2 y) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(3x^2 z) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(2yz^2)$$

$$[\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}_b = 2xy + 4yz]$$

for the vector function...

$$\vec{v}_c = 4y^3 \hat{x} + (2xz^2 + z^3) \hat{y} + 2xy^2 \hat{z}$$

$$\text{so } \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}_c = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(4y^3) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(2xz^2 + z^3) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(2xy^2)$$

$$[\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}_c = 0]$$

2. THE CURL OF A VECTOR FUNCTION IS...

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{V} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ V_x & V_y & V_z \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{V}_a &= \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ x^4 & 4x^2 z^2 & -2y^3 z \end{vmatrix} = \hat{x} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (-2y^3 z) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (4x^2 z^2) \right) \\ &\quad + \hat{y} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z} (x^4) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (-2y^3 z) \right) \\ &\quad + \hat{z} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (4x^2 z^2) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x^4) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \hat{x} (-6y^2 z - 8x^2 z) + \hat{z} (8x z^2)$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{V}_a = -2z(3y^2 + 4x^2) \hat{x} + 8x z^2 \hat{z}$$

WHEREAS

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{V}_b &= \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ x^2 y & 3x^2 z & 2y z^2 \end{vmatrix} = \hat{x} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (2y z^2) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (3x^2 z) \right) + \hat{y} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z} (x^2 y) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (2y z^2) \right) \\ &\quad + \hat{z} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (3x^2 z) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x^2 y) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \hat{x} (2z^2 - 3x^2) + \hat{z} (6xz - x^2)$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{V}_b = (2z^2 - 3x^2) \hat{x} + x(6z - x) \hat{z}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{V}_c = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ 4y^3 & 2xz + z^3 & 2xy^2 \end{vmatrix} = \hat{x} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (2xy^2) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (2xz + z^3) \right) + \hat{y} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z} (4y^3) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (2xy^2) \right) + \hat{z} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (2xz + z^3) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (4y^3) \right)$$

$$= \hat{x}(4xy - (2x^2 + 3z^2)) - \hat{y}(2y^2) + \hat{z}(4xz - 12y^2)$$

$$\left[\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{V}_c = (4xy - 2x^2 - 3z^2)\hat{x} - (2y^2)\hat{y} + 4(xz - 3y^2)\hat{z} \right]$$

3. Let $\vec{v} = \vec{v}(x, y, z) = \hat{x}v_x + \hat{y}v_y + \hat{z}v_z$

NOW I WANT...

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} = 0$$

NO

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ v_x & v_y & v_z \end{vmatrix} = \hat{x} \left(\frac{\partial v_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial z} \right) + \hat{y} \left(\frac{\partial v_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial x} \right) + \hat{z} \left(\frac{\partial v_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial y} \right)$$

$$= 0 \hat{x} + 0 \hat{y} + 0 \hat{z}$$

so for A VECTOR FUNCTION THAT IS DIVERGENCELESS AND CURLLESS EQUATES TO...

$$1) \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} = 0$$

$$2) \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial z} = 0$$

$$3) \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$4) \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial y} = 0$$

ALL BEING SATISFIED!

4. WE NEED TO SHOW THAT...

$$\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) = (\vec{B} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{A} - (\vec{A} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{B} + \vec{A} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B}) - \vec{B} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A})$$

FOR THE VECTOR FUNCTIONS...

$$\vec{A} = 3y \hat{x} + z \hat{y} + 2x \hat{z}$$

$$\vec{B} = 2x \hat{x} - 3z \hat{y}$$

FIRST, THE RIGHT-HAND SIDE...

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{A} \times \vec{B} &= \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ 3y & z & 2x \\ 2x & -3z & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \hat{x} (0 - (2x)(-3z)) + \hat{y} (4x^2 - 0) + \hat{z} (-9yz - 2xz) \\ &= (6xz) \hat{x} + (4x^2) \hat{y} - z(9y + 2x) \hat{z} \end{aligned}$$

SO

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) &= \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ 6xz & 4x^2 & -z(9y + 2x) \end{vmatrix} = \hat{x} \left(-\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (9yz + 2xz) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (4x^2) \right) \\ &\quad + \hat{y} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z} (6xz) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (9yz + 2xz) \right) \\ &\quad + \hat{z} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (4x^2) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (6xz) \right) \\ &= -(9z) \hat{x} + (6x + 2z) \hat{y} + (8x) \hat{z}. \end{aligned}$$

NOW THE LEFT-HAND SIDE...

$$\begin{aligned} (\vec{B} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{A} &= [\hat{x} B_x + \hat{y} B_y + \hat{z} B_z] \cdot \left[\hat{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right] \vec{A} = [B_x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + B_y \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + B_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z}] (\hat{x} A_x + \hat{y} A_y + \hat{z} A_z) \\ &= \left[2x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - 3z \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right] (\hat{x} 3y + \hat{y} z + \hat{z} 2x) = \\ &= 2x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\hat{x} 3y + \hat{y} z + \hat{z} 2x) - 3z \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (\hat{x} 3y + \hat{y} z + \hat{z} 2x) \\ &= 2x \cdot 2 \hat{z} - 3z \cdot 3 \hat{x} = (4x) \hat{z} - (9z) \hat{x} \end{aligned}$$

LIKEWISE...

$$(\vec{A} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{B} = [A_x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + A_y \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + A_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z}] (\hat{x} B_x + \hat{y} B_y + \hat{z} B_z) = \left[3y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + z \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + 2x \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right] (2x \hat{x} - 3z \hat{y})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\vec{A} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{B} &= 3y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (2x\hat{x} - 3z\hat{y}) + z \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (2x\hat{x} - 3z\hat{y}) + 2x \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (2x\hat{x} - 3z\hat{y}) \\
 &= 3y \cdot 2\hat{x} + 2x \cdot -3\hat{y} = 6y\hat{x} - 6x\hat{y}
 \end{aligned}$$

now

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = \frac{\partial B_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (2x) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (-3z) = 2$$

so

$$\vec{A}(\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B}) = 6y\hat{x} + 2z\hat{y} + 4x\hat{z}$$

likewise

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (3y) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (z) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (2x) = 0$$

so

$$\vec{B}(\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A}) = 0$$

now putting it all together...

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\vec{B} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{A} - (\vec{A} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{B} + \vec{A}(\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B}) - \vec{B}(\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A}) &= \left[(4x)\hat{z} - (9z)\hat{x} \right] - \left[6y\hat{x} - 6x\hat{y} \right] \\
 &\quad + \left[6y\hat{x} + 2z\hat{y} + 4x\hat{z} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

now grouping by unit vectors...

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \left[-(9z) - \cancel{6y} + \cancel{6y} \right] \hat{x} + \left[6x + 2z \right] \hat{y} + \left[4x + 4x \right] \hat{z} \\
 &= -(9z)\hat{x} + (6x + 2z)\hat{y} + (8x)\hat{z} \quad \checkmark
 \end{aligned}$$

5.

$$a) \nabla^2 T_a = \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right) (z^2 + 2zx + 3y + 5)$$

$$= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} (z^2 + 2zx + 3y + 5) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} (z^2 + 2zx + 3y + 5) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} (z^2 + 2zx + 3y + 5)$$

$$= 0 + 0 + 2$$

$$[\nabla^2 T_a = 2]$$

$$b) \nabla^2 T_b = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} (\sin x \cos y \sin z) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} (\sin x \cos y \sin z) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} (\sin x \cos y \sin z)$$

$$= -\sin x \cos y \sin z - \sin x \cos y \sin z - \sin x \cos y \sin z$$

$$[\nabla^2 T_b = -3 \sin x \cos y \sin z]$$

$$c) \nabla^2 T_c = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} (e^{-2z} \sin 3x \cos 4y) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} (e^{-2z} \sin 3x \cos 4y) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} (e^{-2z} \sin 3x \cos 4y)$$

$$= -9 e^{-2z} \sin 3x \cos 4y - 16 e^{-2z} \sin 3x \cos 4y + 4 e^{-2z} \sin 3x \cos 4y$$

$$[\nabla^2 T_c = -21 e^{-2z} \sin 3x \cos 4y]$$

$$d) \nabla^2 \vec{v} = \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right) (z^2 \hat{x} + 2zy^2 \hat{y} - zy \hat{z})$$

$$= \hat{x} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right) z^2 + \hat{y} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right) 2zy^2 - \hat{z} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right) zy$$

$$= \hat{x} \cdot 2 + \hat{y} \cdot 4z$$

$$[\nabla^2 \vec{v} = 2\hat{x} + 4z\hat{y}]$$

6. Consider a generic vector function

$$\vec{B} = B_x \hat{x} + B_y \hat{y} + B_z \hat{z}$$

a) the curl of \vec{B} is...

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ B_x & B_y & B_z \end{vmatrix} = \hat{x} \left(\frac{\partial B_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial z} \right) + \hat{y} \left(\frac{\partial B_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial x} \right) + \hat{z} \left(\frac{\partial B_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial B_x}{\partial y} \right)$$

so the divergence of the curl of B is...

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}) &= \left[\hat{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right] \cdot \left[\hat{x} \left(\frac{\partial B_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial z} \right) + \hat{y} \left(\frac{\partial B_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial x} \right) + \hat{z} \left(\frac{\partial B_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial B_x}{\partial y} \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial B_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial z} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial B_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial B_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial B_x}{\partial y} \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial^2 B_z}{\partial x \partial y} - \frac{\partial^2 B_y}{\partial x \partial z} + \frac{\partial^2 B_x}{\partial y \partial z} - \frac{\partial^2 B_z}{\partial y \partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 B_y}{\partial z \partial x} - \frac{\partial^2 B_x}{\partial z \partial y} = 0 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

b) Consider a generic scalar function

$$g = g(x, y, z)$$

the gradient of g is...

$$\vec{\nabla} g = \hat{x} \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial g}{\partial z}$$

so the curl of the gradient is...

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} g) &= \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial g}{\partial z} \end{vmatrix} = \hat{x} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{\partial g}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} \right) + \hat{y} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\partial g}{\partial z} \right) \\ &\quad + \hat{z} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} \right) = 0 \hat{x} + 0 \hat{y} + 0 \hat{z} \end{aligned}$$

since

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} g = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} g = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y \partial z} g \dots$$

7. Consider the vector field

$$\vec{v} = z^2 \hat{x} + 2zy^2 \hat{y} - zy \hat{z} \quad \text{so} \quad \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{r} = z^2 dx + 2zy^2 dy - zy dz$$

$$d\vec{r} = dx \hat{x} + dy \hat{y} + dz \hat{z}$$

a) from $(0, 0, 0) \rightarrow (1, 0, 0)$ implies $dy = dz = 0$, $y = z = 0$

$$\text{so} \int_{(i)} \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_0^1 z^2 dx \Big|_{z=0} = 0$$

from $(1, 0, 0) \rightarrow (1, 1, 0)$ implies $dx = dz = 0$, $x = 1$, $z = 0$

$$\text{so} \int_{(ii)} \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_0^1 2zy^2 dy \Big|_{z=0} = 0$$

from $(1, 1, 0) \rightarrow (1, 1, 1)$ implies $dx = dy = 0$, $x = y = 1$

$$\text{so} \int_{(iii)} \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{r} = - \int_0^1 zy dz \Big|_{y=1} = - \int_0^1 z dz = - \frac{z^2}{2} \Big|_0^1 = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{so} \left[\int_{(0,0,0)}^{(1,1,1)} \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{r} = -\frac{1}{2} \right] \quad \text{shows the path is not conservative}$$

b) from $(0, 0, 0) \rightarrow (0, 0, 1)$ implies $dx = dy = 0$, $x = y = 0$

$$\text{so} \int_{(i)} \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{r} = - \int_0^1 zy dz \Big|_{y=0} = 0$$

from $(0, 0, 1) \rightarrow (0, 1, 1)$ implies $dx = dz = 0$, $x = 0$, $z = 1$

$$\text{so} \int_{(ii)} \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_0^1 2zy^2 dy \Big|_{z=1} = 2 \int_0^1 y^2 dy = \frac{2}{3} y^3 \Big|_0^1 = \frac{2}{3}$$

from $(0,1,1) \rightarrow (1,1,1)$ implies $dy=dz=0$, $y=z=1$

$$\text{so } \int_{(0,1,1)}^{\dots} \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_0^1 z^2 dx \Big|_{z=1} = \int_0^1 dx = x \Big|_0^1 = 1$$

$$\text{so } \int_{(0,0,0)}^{(1,1,1)} \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0 + \frac{2}{3} + 1 \quad \therefore \int_{(0,0,0)}^{(1,1,1)} \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{r} = \frac{5}{3} \quad \text{along the path in b)}$$

c) THE DIRECT STRAIGHT LINE IMPLIES

$$dx=dy=dz, \quad x=y=z$$

$$\text{so } \int \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int (z^2 dx + 2zy^2 dy - zy dz) \Big|_{x=y=z} = \int_0^1 (\cancel{x^2} dx + 2x^3 dx - \cancel{x^2} dx)$$

$$= 2 \int_0^1 x^3 dx = \frac{2}{4} x^4 \Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{2} \quad dx=dy=dz$$

$$\therefore \int_{(0,0,0)}^{(1,1,1)} \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{r} = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{along the STRAIGHT-LINE PATH of c)}$$